New York, Jan. 14, 1834.

My dear Garrison:

It is with an overflowing heart that I address you to-day. A few hours since my valedictory, as Editor of the Emancipator, was published to the world. Such an occurrence, I need not say to you, is calculated to awaken the most intense feelings in a sensitive mind. Nothing but a firm conviction of duty – a consciousness that the paper will be far better conducted by our dear Goodell, than it has been my myself – and the hope that I may do more for a cause dearer to me than the blood of my heart, by public addresses over the free States – could reconcile me to a withdrawal from a post to which I have been looking with solicitude for years. As it is, I take this step only for the present, and with the assurance that I shall again ere long return to one of my most favorite methods of disseminating truth.

Do not suppose, however, that I am seriously cast down by this change. Oh no! I feel confident – quite confident – that it is altogether for the best. The hand of God is in it; and "shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" I rejoice at the privilege of giving way to a man who eminently deserves to be placed in the fore-front of our moral phalanx; and sustained by our strongest shoulders, and by our truest hearts. May the blessing which comes on those ready to perish, and their return gratitude, and the smiles of his Heavenly Father, ever be with and on him!

As to the course I shall take from here, I am at present rather undecided. It has recently been my desire to come post-haste to Boston, in attendance on the anniversary of the N.E.A.S.S.; but I suppose this will be impracticable now. I am not, however, unwilling to relinquish a visit to your city, to Lowell, Reading, and

several other places, if it is at all possible for me so to do. My soul, believe me, is all on fire for the blessed work before me. I long, with an unquenchable longing, to be applying the flame to the ignitable mass. God grant I may enkindle a moral conflagration among evil doers, more extensive far than the blaze of Moscow! May he give me the privilege of applying the torch to the last stubble of colonization!

If I should not now come East, it is probable that my steps will be turned toward the interior of this State. There are several places on the North river, such as Hudson, Catskill and Albany, in here small but not inefficient Societies might be formed. And in several of the towns which I visited the past Spring, a foothold for equal right has been secured, and should be permanently retained. Doubtless you have heard, ere this, what the God of Freedom is doing for us in Utica. President Green has been lifting up his trumpet-like voice here, in public debate with Joshua N. Danforth for several successive days. A letter from a brother on the spot informs me that the most propitious results have followed from the encounter. One David has had to meet a battalion of the hosts of Philistia, single handed and alone. Alone, did I say? No! the arm which points the kingly shepherd to the pebbly brook, was underneath our champion. His stone of truth, more mighty than all the rank and file of error, has already struck the brow of that hideous monster of oppression and uncleanness we are called to oppose. The day of his downfal and decapitation draweth nigh!

The letter above alluded to further states, that several of the most respectable citizens of Utica are sincere to the truth as it is in Jesus. Their names have been already forwarded as subscribers to the Anti-Slavery Reporter. Then there is the Institute at Whitesboro' — every hour becoming more and more thoroughly an abolition school.

A few moments since I had a glance at the Liberator. I am glad to see it so much enlarged. As to improvements, (since you returned, at least,) I do not know how or where they could be introduced. I suppose you will have better paper, if possible, as your progress; and the last column of your inside page will doubtless prove a little as your delinquent subscribers 'pay up.' Not having read your "recapitulation," (a pleasure I shall not long deny myself,) I do not know what prospects of continuance are; but I do hope that your embarrassments will speedily cease. During my trip thro' New England, - should providence permit such a course, - I should be happy to obtain for you several subscribers, and the money therefor.

My dear brother - when I look back to '30-1, and contemplate changes that have passed over our cause since then, I am overwhelmed with the obligation there is on me to be more grateful and devoted to the Master, than I have hitherto been. O what a work is this! What progress has it made since you wrote me those letters which animated and encouraged me while conducting the Phenix! How many friends has God raised us up since then! And such friends too! So pious, so elevated and pure in motive, so gifted in talent, so liberal in purse! Dark and dense clouds are still before us in some sections - but we trust they will yet be converted to refreshing showers that shall water the moral eminences of the land.

But it is time that this rambling epistle were brought to a close. I wish you, after next week, to send the Liberator, (including the last and present numbers) to my address, at Stonington, Ct. I will endeavor to pay you for it in something better than good wishes.

Now, Garrison, do write me as soon as you can. Direct to me here, care of bro. Goodell.

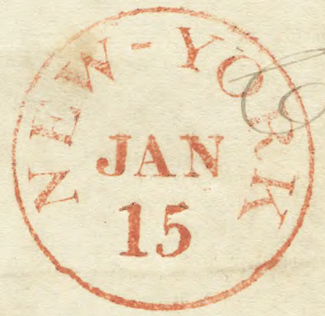
Farewell.

Charles W. Denison.

18

William Lloyd Garrison,

Editor of the Liberator,

Boston,

Mass.